

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED~~

U.S. Officials Only

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

COUNTRY International

SUBJECT Petroleum Production/UK Railways

PLACE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

25X1A

DATE ACQUIRED
(BY SOURCE)

ORR NO.	
DAS NO.	
OCI NO.	

DATE (OF INFO.) 20 Nov 53

DATE DISTR. 16 Dec 53

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 702 AND 704, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS FORBIDDEN.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

SOURCE

1.

25X6

2.

3. France's foreign trade gap was halved during January-September, 1953, compared with the same nine months of last year:-

\$ Billion	<u>1st Nine Months</u>		<u>% Change</u>
	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	
Imports	2.360	2.750	-14
Exports	1.860	1.700	+9
Deficit	.500	1.050	-52

4. A program for the modernization of British Railways, including the expenditure of £11 million on diesel shunting locomotives, was announced in the House of Commons recently.

5. In southeastern Sicily, Gulf Oil Corp. has tested heavy 12-16° gravity crude in its Ragusa 1 wildcat. The oil was obtained from formations believed to be the Jurassic at around 6,000 ft. The well is being carried deeper and at last reports was drilling below 6,500 ft.

SEE LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA COPIES

U.S. Officials Only
SECRET

DISTRIBUTION ➔	STATE	X ARMY	X NAVY	X AIR	X FBI				
----------------	-------	--------	--------	-------	-------	--	--	--	--

This report is for the use within the USA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA,

REF ID: A6529

25X1A

SECRET//US OFFICIALS ONLY

-2-

6. The Soviet administrative organization which controls the production and sale of petroleum in Austria has undertaken to deliver 19,560 b/d of petroleum products for sale in Austria during 1954. This total, which will be almost sufficient to cover the country's needs, is made up as follows:

Motor fuel	3,690 b/d
Gas oil	3,800
Fuel oil	10,000
Paraffin	570
Bitumen	500
Special oils	1,000

7. Reports from Austria suggest that the Soviet Oil Administration has ceased from exploratory activities. It is stated that all seismic investigations have been stopped, and that test drilling on the Czechoslovak border at Augern and Ravensburg, together with exploration at Adershlaa, has been suspended. The official reason for this cessation of activity is that the Austrian market is already amply supplied and that export possibilities are insufficiently promising. Unofficial comment, however, interprets it as a sign of the withdrawal of Soviet forces in the not-too-distant future.
8. Crude oil production in Saudi Arabia averaged 851,727 b/d in October, an increase of 15,792 b/d over September. Average production for the first ten months of 1953 has been 846,334 b/d. Crude runs at Ras Tanura were 173,843 b/d in October, considerably below the 206,592 b/d ten-month 1953 average.
9. Anglo-Iranian has started laying two 19-mile pipelines - one 16" and the other 6" in diameter - which will join its 100,000 b/d Aden refinery to its international bunkering installation. Over 40,000 b/d of four grades of oil will be handled.
10. Kuwait, one of the smallest countries in the world, has just become the ninth country to reach the billion barrel cumulative oil production category, accomplishing this remarkable achievement in a shorter time - less than eight years - than any of its eight predecessors. A comparison showing the time taken by each of the nine countries to produce a billion barrels is shown below:
- | | | |
|---------------|-----------|----------|
| Rumania | 1857-1943 | 87 years |
| Indonesia | 1895-1941 | 49 " |
| Russia | 1863-1905 | 43 " |
| United States | 1859-1900 | 42 " |
| Iran | 1913-1940 | 28 " |
| Mexico | 1901-1923 | 23 " |
| Venezuela | 1917-1931 | 18 " |
| Saudi Arabia | 1936-1951 | 16 " |
| Kuwait | 1946-1953 | 8 " |
11. American Independent Oil Co. has completed its fourth well in the Wairra field for about 4,500 b/d. It is located one mile north of the discovery well in the Kuwait-Saudi Arabia Neutral Zone. Construction of gathering, pipeline, and terminal facilities is proceeding and it is anticipated that crude will move to the company's tidewater terminal at Mina Abdulla, Kuwait, by January 1st.
12. Construction of a products pipeline from Durban to Johannesburg is under consideration. Initial estimates place the cost at about \$25 million, including a branch line to the Gold fields in the Orange Free State. High railroad freight rates on petroleum are considered as justifying the project.
13. A plan has been submitted to the Japanese Government under which the equivalent of \$28 million would be spent over a 5-year period in an effort to increase Japanese oil production. The goal would be 17,300 b/d. Existing fields would increase their output from the present level of about 6,000 b/d to 7,300 b/d. Secondary recovery would add another 2,000 b/d, leaving 5,000 b/d to be produced from new fields.

LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

-end-

SECRET//US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1A

SECRET/US OFFICIALS ONLY/SECURITY INFORMATION [REDACTED]

-3-

LIBRARY SUBJECT & AREA CODES

711.112	4M/D
12/735.63	4M/D(N)
12/735.63	N(QI)
751.5	6M
622.021	19M
8/735.6	17M/C
4/735.5	66K
755.11	22M
735.334	5K
8/735.5	3L